area. As the flood water starts rising the animals of the park move on to the higher areas or migrate to safer places. In the process sometimes some animals do get killed either by drowning or by accidents during migration. However, no such death cases have been reported from Assam for the year 1992 floods. Possibility of securing external assistance for conservation of Indian Rhinos is being explored which inter alia, will provide ameliorative measures for safety of wild animals against floods in the Kaziranga National Park.

Land under Forests in the States

2739. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land under forests, Statewise;

(b) in what manner these compare with the estimates made during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

(c) the details of financial assistance provided to states for development of forests during Sixth and Seventh Plan;

(d) whether the State Governments have diverted these funds for other purposes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure proper utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The State of Forest Report 1991 shows that the recorded forest area in the country is 7,70,078 Sq. km. The Statewise details are given in the Statement see below. This indicates an increase of 18,732 Sq. km when compared to 1989 State of Forest Report.

(c) During Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plan, an allocation of Rs. 629.49 Crores and Rs. 2,542.84 Crores respectively was made to the various States for afforestation activities.

(d) No information regarding diversion of the funds allocated for afforestation purposes by the State Governments have come to the notice of Central Government.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) To ensure proper utilisation of funds, the State Governments have their own arrangement to monitor progress on afforestation/tree planting activities under point No. 16 of the 20-Point Programme. At the Central level the achievements are monitored by National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board and Ministry of Programme Implementation. Externally aided projects are monitored by the Donor Agencies also.

Statement

The State-wise Details of Recorded Forest Area in the Country

S. No.	State/UTs	Recorded forest area (Sq. km.)
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63,726
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51,540
3.	Assam	30,708
4.	Bihar	29,226
5.	Goa (including Daman & Diu)	1,256
6.	Gujarat	19,388
7.	Haryana	1,687
8.	Himachal Pradesh	37,591
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	20,174
10.	Karnataka	38,646
11.	Kerala	11,222
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1,55,414
13.	Maharashtra	63,861
14.	Manipur	15,154
15.	Meghalaya	9,496
16.	Mizoram	15,935
17.	Nagaland	8,625
18.	Orissa	59,555
19.	Punjab	2,842
20.	Rajasthan	31,539
21.	Sikkim	2,650
22.	Tamilnadu	22,599
23.	Tripura	6,292
24.	Uttar Pradesh	51,502
25.	West Bengal	11,379
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	7,171
27.	Chandigarh	31

28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	207
29.	Delhi	42
30.	Lakshadweep	—
31.	Pondicherry	—
	TOTAL	7,70,078

Census of Tigers, Lions and other Wild Cats

2740. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fresh census of tigers, lions and other wild cats in different wild life sanctuaries has recently been held;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) which of the parks and sanctuaries show decline in population and the reasons to which the decline is attributable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The State Governments have been requested to carry out census of wild animals including tigers, lions and other wild cats in different National Parks/Sanctuaries/other areas during 1993. The results of the census operation are awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

Wildlife Sanctuary Turns a Death Trap

2741. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Indian Express dated June 1, 1993, Captioned 'Wildlife sanctuary turns a death trap' pertaining to the fast deteriorating conditions in the Zoological Park, near Ormanjhi, Ranchi, and consequent extinction of rare breed animals at the zoo; and

(b) if so, whether Government have caused a survey of all the zoological parks and sanctuaries set up to protect and promote the rare breeds, in the light of the said report; if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Newspaper report has come to the attention of the Government of India, indicating that one leopard, one sambhar and one neelgai have reportedly died. These animals, as per the classification of Zoological Survey of India, are not rare wild animals.

(b) The Government of India have established a Central Zoo Authority which among other things prescribes minimum standards of upkeep of wild animals in the zoos. This Authority is required to evaluate and assess the zoos with regard to these standards before granting recognition. The process of survey & evaluation has already been initiated.

Pending Proposal for Clearance

2742. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of proposals received for forest clearance during the last year;

(b) what is the total number of proposals pending for clearance;

(c) how many such proposals have been received from Maharashtra;

(d) how many out of (c) above have been cleared; and

(e) what is the reason for not clearing the remaining proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Since 1-8-1992 up to 31-7-1993, 352 proposals have been received for clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(b) As on 31-7-1993, 121 proposals were pending with the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) Since 1-8-1992 up to 31-7-1993, 64 proposals have been received from Maharashtra.

(d) Out of the above 64, 18 proposals have been approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. During this same period, however, 23